

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~The composting device of claim 5, A~~
composting device for composting organic matter, comprising:

a hollow container having a bottom end, a top end and at least one sidewall extending therebetween, the top end including a charge opening therein for adding said organic matter, the hollow container also having a discharge opening proximal the bottom end for removing compost matter, the hollow container being a parallelepiped and having four sidewalls extending between said bottom end and said top end;

a removable top cover for cooperating with said top end of said hollow container to cover said charge opening, the top cover being removable to expose said charge opening, the top cover including a connector portion;

an ornament including a corresponding connection portion, the corresponding connection portion cooperating with said connection portion of said top cover for mounting said ornament on said top cover; and

a pivot bar coupled to said removable top cover and to said hollow container for pivoting said top cover about said container, between a closed position in which the top cover is disposed at said top end and covers said charge opening, and an open position in which the top cover is pivoted away from said top end, thereby exposing said charge opening, wherein said pivot bar is coupled to a corner post disposed between two of the four sidewalls of the container.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The composting device of claim [4] 6, further comprising a plurality of feet fixed to said bottom end of said container, said feet for stabilizing said container when said top cover is pivoted between said closed position and said open position.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~The composting device of claim 1, A~~
composting device for composting organic matter, comprising:

a hollow container having a bottom end, a top end and at least one sidewall extending therebetween, the top end including a charge opening therein for adding said organic matter, the hollow container also having a discharge opening proximal the bottom end for removing compost matter;

a removable top cover for cooperating with said top end of said hollow container to cover said charge opening, the top cover being removable to expose said charge opening, the top cover including a connector portion; and

an ornament including a corresponding connection portion, the corresponding connection portion cooperating with said connection portion of said top cover for mounting said ornament on said top cover, wherein each of said at least one sidewall includes an inner side panel having openings for ventilation and an outer side panel attached to said inner side panel, thereby providing a double-walled structure.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~The composting device of claim 8,~~ A composting device for composting organic matter, comprising:

a hollow container having a bottom end, a top end and at least one sidewall extending therebetween, the top end including a charge opening therein for adding said organic matter, the hollow container also having a discharge opening proximal the bottom end for removing compost matter, the container having four sidewalls, each sidewall being tiered, such that each sidewall includes a side panel portion adjacent said top end, and a step-wise tiered access panel portion extending from said side panel portion to said bottom end, said access panel portion being openable to expose said discharge opening;

a removable top cover for cooperating with said top end of said hollow container to cover said charge opening, the top cover being removable to expose said charge opening, the top cover including a connector portion; and

an ornament including a corresponding connection portion, the corresponding connection portion cooperating with said connection portion of said top cover for mounting said ornament on said top cover, wherein each side panel portion includes an inner side panel and an outer side panel attached to said inner side panel, said inner side panel having openings for ventilation.

Claim 11 (Original): The composting device of claim 10, wherein each access panel portion includes an inner access panel and an outer access panel attached to said inner access panel, said inner side panel having openings for ventilation.

Claim 12 (Original): A composting device for composting organic matter, comprising:

a hollow container having a bottom end, a top end and at least one sidewall extending therebetween, each of said at least one sidewall including an inner side panel having openings for ventilation and an outer side panel attached to said inner side panel to provide a double-walled structure, the top end including a charge opening therein for adding said organic matter, the container further including a discharge opening proximal the bottom end, for removing compost matter; and

a removable top cover for cooperating with said top end of said hollow container to cover said charge opening, the top cover being removable to expose said charge opening.

Claim 13 (Original): The composting device of claim 12, wherein said hollow container is cylindrically shaped and has a single sidewall extending between said bottom end and said top end.

Claim 14 (Original): The composting device of claim 12, wherein said hollow container is a parallelepiped and has four sidewalls extending between said bottom end and said top end.

Claim 15 (Original): The composting device of claim 12, wherein said removable top cover is pivotally attached to said hollow container to pivot between a closed position in which the top cover is disposed at said top end and covers said charge opening, and an open position in which the top cover is pivoted away from said top end, thereby exposing said charge opening.

Claim 16 (Original): The composting device of claim 14, further comprising a pivot bar coupled to said removable top cover and to said hollow container for pivoting said top cover about said container, between a closed position in which the top cover is disposed at said top end and covers said charge opening, and an open position in which the top cover is pivoted away from said top end, thereby exposing said charge opening.

Claim 17 (Original): The composting device of claim 16, wherein said pivot bar is coupled to a corner post disposed between two of the four sidewalls of the container.

Claim 18 (Original): The composting device of claim 15, further comprising a plurality of feet fixed to said bottom end of said container, said feet for stabilizing said container when said top cover is pivoted between said closed position and said open position.

Claim 19 (Original): The composting device of claim 12, wherein said container has four sidewalls, each sidewall being tiered, such that each sidewall includes a side panel portion adjacent said top end, and a step-wise tiered access panel portion extending from said side panel portion to said bottom end, the access panel portion being openable to expose said discharge opening.

Claim 20 (Original): A composting device kit for assembly into a composter for composting organic matter, the kit comprising:

a plurality of sidewalls, each sidewall including an inner side panel having openings for ventilation, and an outer side panel for attachment to said inner side panel, said sidewalls including attachment means for assembling said sidewalls into a hollow container having a bottom end and a top end with said sidewalls extending therebetween, such that, when assembled, said top end includes a charge opening for adding said organic matter, at least a portion of one of said sidewalls being moveable to expose a discharge opening proximal the bottom end for removing compost matter; and

a removable top cover for cooperating with said top end of said hollow container to cover said charge opening when assembled, the top cover being removable to expose said charge opening.